



Mavs crush Michigan State,
fall on road to Ohio State

After outscoring the
Spartans 10-2, UNO falls
twice in the third period.

SPORTS
[PAGE 5]

gateway

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA SINCE 1913

'Twilight' movie draws
strong opening weekend

Coming in No. 1 over the
weekend, the vampire flick
hauled in \$70.6 million.

CULTURE
[PAGE 6]



VOLUME 08 | ISSUE 23

TUESDAY | DECEMBER 2, 2008

Professors debate global warming impact

KRISTINE HARTMAN
CONTRIBUTOR

Two UNO professors – Robert Smith of chemistry and Bruce Johansen of communication – debated the severity of global warming at a forum at the Omaha Press Club Nov. 20.

The forum, "Global Warming: Pro and Con," was held by the club because scientists believe global warming is "real and presents a threat to the future of the world," according to a flyer handed out before the forum.

Johansen has been an advocate for global warming awareness for many years and has published more than 20 books on the subject. Smith, on the other hand, has said water vapor is the major contributing force and that human contributions to green house gases are an insignificant factor.

Some professionals have argued human behavior does not contribute to the global warming phenomenon. Smith said global warming is a cyclical process that is both inevitable and has very little to do with the

emissions that humans have had on the environment.

"The earth is experiencing an ongoing 300-year warming trend of about 0.8 degrees Celsius per century," Smith said. "This warming trend predates the industrial revolution."

When asked how he became interested in global warming, Smith said he always heard about the dangers of greenhouse gases, but rarely did anyone mention that water vapor accounts for 95 percent of the warming.

"The greenhouse effect is good and everybody should recognize that, unless they want to live in Northern Canada," Smith said. "People have different perspectives on things and I am not going to argue about everybody. You ought to be aware of what the facts are"

Johansen, however, said global warming was happening regardless of political spin and debates about Earth's climate.

"CO₂, methane and dioxide – all are gases that retain heat – didn't vote for George W. Bush. They have no political interest. They don't care if we burn fossil fuels or not. And they don't care if we understand their role in the



Hugh Cowdin, right, addresses UNO professors Robert Smith, center, and Bruce Johansen during a forum on global warming at the Omaha Press Club on Nov. 20. (KRISTINE HARTMAN/THE GATEWAY)

atmosphere or not," Johansen said. "All they do is retain heat and the more of them we put up in the atmosphere the more heat they retain."

Thermal inertia, Johansen said, is the major reason why people have not taken notice to the severity of global warming.

"It takes about 50 years in the air and about 150 years in the ocean for the CO₂ and

other gases that we emit today to become heat that we can feel today," Johansen said.

As of right now, we are just experiencing the effects of global warming that took place around the start of the Vietnam War.

"Our diplomacy and debate are often based on what we feel right now," Johansen said. "It's hard to get folks out there to react 50 years ahead."

GSO trip's vote up for recount this Thursday

BRIAN MOODY
STAFF WRITER

A student agency's conference trip expenses will not come from Student Government's coffers, at least for the time being.

At the Nov. 20 Student Senate meeting, emergency legislation to allocate operational funds for a conference trip for the Gender and Sexual Orientation student agency appeared to be shot down by a 10-11 vote.

However, it was agreed to recount the votes because of a potential counting error. Brooke Ayoub, Student Government's professional secretary, said votes would be recast at a special called senate session at 6:45 p.m. immediately before the organization's regularly scheduled committee meeting on Dec. 4.

The proposal was to send GSO leadership to The Task Force's Creating Change Conference in Denver from Jan. 28 to Feb. 1. GSO, an agency of Student Government, plans to send four students to the conference at an estimated cost of \$2,800.

More than half of the total cost, including registration, food, hotel and transportation, was proposed to come from GSO's budget. This left a gap of approximately \$700 that was suggested to be covered by Student Government's general operational funds.

During discussion, senators' opinions varied toward using student fees to pay for the trip.

"The agencies are part of Fund A, part of Fund B," said Lucas Seiler, Student Government president. "They are their own entity, so they have their own budget. We have our budget."

Seiler said the line is thin between Student Government branches and the agencies. The expenses from the retreat senators attended earlier this

SEE SENATE: PAGE 2

Centennial lecturer, artist advocates style to campus community

MIKE BELL
STAFF WRITER

Artist David Diaz, his voice raspy from giving so many lectures and speeches recently, told a crowd on Nov. 20 about his use of different styles, from smooth watercolors to solid black lines and color.

"Through my success, I've been able to experiment with different mediums and techniques," Diaz said. "After art school, I had a job where I would be paid about \$25 per painting I did."

Diaz has come a long way. He is best known for his illustrations of children's picture books such as "Smoky Night" and his work with companies like Pepsi and Warner Bros. Now his work is displayed in the Joslyn Art Museum through Feb. 22.

Diaz's lecture, part of the Del and Lou Ann Weber Centennial Lecture Series, was in front of a crowd of students, faculty and staff in the Collaborative Commons at the College of Public Affairs and Community Service Building.

Diaz's also spoke at El Museo Latino on Nov. 18, the South Branch Library on Nov. 21 and the Joslyn Art Museum on Nov. 22.

Since Diaz's paintings took so long to do – some of them nearly a hundred hours – he said he realized that he had to loosen up and try a different approach to his work.

Using simplistic geometric shapes, Diaz said he makes faces using a series of ovals and letters: a curvy 'M' for the brow and nose, two footballs for eyes and donuts for pupils. His technique is

easy; anyone can do it, he said, which is precisely what he wants.

During his lecture, Diaz told the crowd to pick up a pen and paper and doodle along with him. Obliging, the audience recreated his drawing with ease.

"You've got to eliminate technique – just be in the moment," Diaz said.

Diaz comes up with his ideas for illustrations while reading the manuscript of the next book he is illustrating.

"I read it until I see it. My advice to any artists out there is to steal as many ideas as possible and mash them together until you find your own style," Diaz said. "They send me the script, I do the sketches and pagination and then a lot of back and forth with the editor until it's done."

Answering questions from the crowd, Diaz shared his insight on the creative process.

"I mostly watch TV or listen to music while working, usually 'The Simpsons' is on," Diaz said after being asked about his studio at home.

Diaz shared a few pictures showing an office that could be in anyone's home with the exception of some paints and canvas lying about.

"I use different mediums," Diaz said, "from paint and brush to Illustrator and Photoshop, depending on the book."

Nearly finished with his 37th book, Diaz was asked if he ever thought of doing his own book.

"Yes, I have thought about it," Diaz said, laughing, "but it sounds like too much work."



Artist David Diaz demonstrates his technique during a lecture at the CPACS Building Collaborative Commons on Nov. 20. (MIKE BELL/THE GATEWAY)

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The Gateway is published by the University of Nebraska at Omaha Student Publications Committee on Tuesdays and Fridays during the fall and spring semesters and on Tuesdays during the summer sessions.

Advertising inquiries should be directed to the Advertising Manager. Other inquiries and complaints should be directed to the Editor-In-Chief. Copies of the Student Publications Committee inquiry and complaint policy are available at The Gateway's office, located on the first floor of the Milo Bail Student Center.

The Gateway is funded as follows: 70 percent advertising revenue, 30 percent student fees allocated by student government.

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One per student, 25 cents each.

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Visiting Beijing: UNO prof recounts trip during summer Olympics

MIKE BELL
STAFF WRITER

A UNO assistant professor of political science spent three weeks in Beijing this summer to observe the summer Olympics.

Elizabeth Dahl, the professor who traveled to China, spoke about her observations at the games and the current Chinese political, economic, cultural and social situation on Wednesday as part of International Education Week.

"It was the hottest days of the year," Dahl said. "I had volunteered to help guide any English speakers around because being a native speaker it is easier to understand the tourists. I would say nearly 90 percent of the volunteers were from Beijing universities, so their grasp on English was only 100 percent by the book grammar."

Dahl described China's difficult pre-Olympic preparations.

With the whole world watching, the Chinese government threw the city cleanup process into overdrive. Dahl showed pictures of the Beijing skyline, beautiful and stretching to the horizon, marred by smog and pollution.

"In a city of 17.4 million people, there are 20 million cars," Dahl said. "That dense of a living area — coupled with the cars' engines not as efficient with carbon monoxide production as our cars are — the air quality was atrocious. There really isn't a clear day there."

And Dahl would know. She lived in a working class neighborhood in Beijing for a year and a half. She described daily life in China.

"Everyone needs jobs in this kind of economy, so some things you would see being done by machines, like street sweepers, are still done by hand," Dahl said.

FROM SENATE: PAGE 1

fall were below budget, providing an opportunity to help GSO fund the conference trip.

"We had a lot of money left over — a lot more than what was allocated for the trip," Seiler said. "So our operational budget is still pretty full because of that. There's such a gray line between the agencies and Student Government."

Sen. Nathan Kirkland, though, said he is not sold on the idea of spending extra money on a trip only a select few are going on.

"It goes into the reserve, but that doesn't mean we have to spend it," Kirkland said. "I'm not saying it's a bad idea. I just don't think we are spending money wisely."

In other business, senators approved a letter of statement to explore alternatives to Lotus Notes, the current e-mail system on campus. Login problems, prevalent since the beginning of last summer, have plagued the campus community.

Sen. Suyash Joshi had a hands-on experience with another of Lotus Notes' flaws: sluggish message delivery from other e-mail programs. He said e-mail sent between Lotus Notes accounts usually is quick.

"But when it comes from Gmail or something," Joshi said, "it can take up to two days."

According to the letter of statement, an investigative committee comprised of faculty, staff and students should explore options for reliable electronic communication on

campus.

Senators welcomed Graduate Class Sen. Samuel Saunders and Senior Class Sen. Mark Patel.

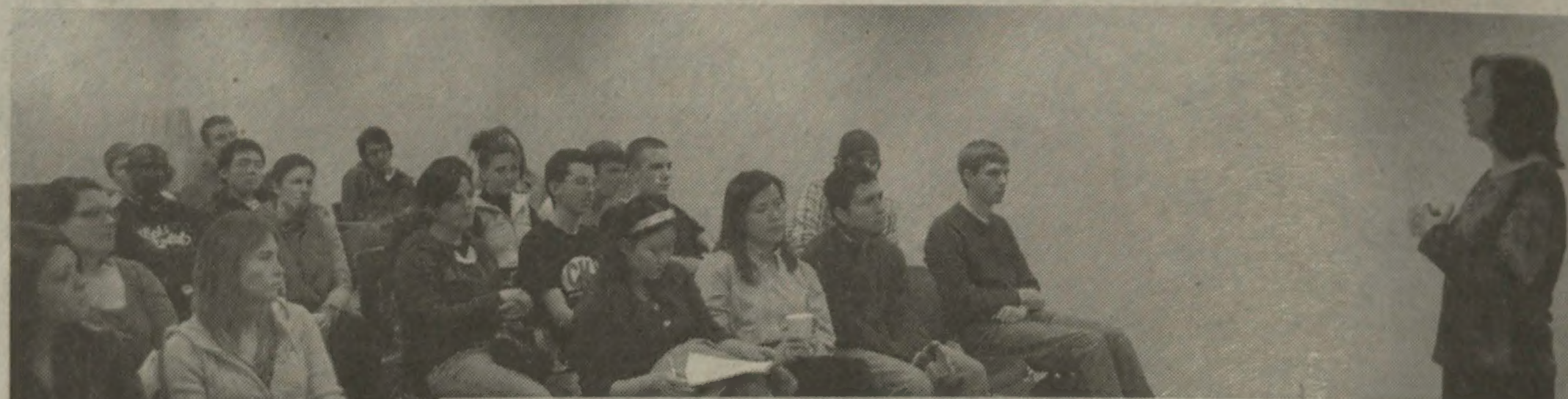
Patel said he hopes to continue giving back to campus in the position.

"I've had a pretty good experience," Patel said to senators. "I want to pass that on."

A former staff writer for The Gateway, an active member of the Christian-based student group The Rock and a University Village resident, Patel said he wishes to increase security, especially in and around the residence halls and apartments.

With the Oct. 30 incident at University Village where three men knocked on doors claiming to be resident assistants, Patel said he will strive for the addition of more emergency phones to increase the campus community's comfort.

Senators also approved Katie Leahy's appointment to the Student Activities Budget Commission, which oversees Fund A student fees.



Elizabeth Dahl, right, an assistant professor of political science, discusses her visit to Beijing this summer for the Olympic games. (MIKE BELL/THE GATEWAY)

Fields of concrete are busy with peasant farmers coming from the outer city to sell food in front of five-star hotels. Some of them still wear Mao-era military style clothing.

Nevertheless, even though China is a communist country, it is really in name only, Dahl said.

"Mao Zae Dong would spin in his grave if he saw how capitalist China has become," Dahl said. "There aren't supposed to be different social classes in communism and yet everywhere I went I could see the social gaps. Migrant workers did most of the hard labor. The Chinese find it more appealing and desirable if you have a lighter skin tone, whereas those with darker skin find harder working conditions."

Dahl's slides continued to show the cityscape. The cosmopolitan life in Beijing is alive and well, she said. A Kentucky Fried Chicken stood next to a karaoke bar.

"It's very odd to have the servant at Starbucks correct you and say 'Oh, grande?' when I ordered my coffee," Dahl said.

Daily life in Beijing appeared similar to Nebraska life. Dahl showed pictures of older people walking with their hands behind their backs, while

young men walked their dogs.

"People here love dogs," Dahl said. "Absolutely adore them. They don't eat them. Not in this region, anyway."

When Dahl arrived in Beijing for three weeks in late July for the Olympics, the city had been transformed. All the old, rickety subway cars had been phased out and shiny new ones had taken their place. Huge flowerbeds and enormous banners had been placed in front of any building or place deemed an eyesore.

"Even the taxis, which were so dirty sometimes they would leave a layer of soot on my clothes if I used the seatbelt, were spotless," Dahl said. "They even had the taxi drivers wear collared yellow shirts and ties instead of just their track suits."

Overall, Dahl was impressed with the efforts the Chinese put into preparing for the games.

"It was China's biggest moment in the 21st century so far," Dahl said. "This served as the people's sign of accomplishment because they have been trying so hard to catch up with the world. I had never seen such a uniform sense of patriotism in my life. I've never seen a country so focused to do something flawlessly."

Leahy lacks experience but she still impressed Vice President Jared Davis.

"She doesn't have any experience, but she's very energetic," Davis said before the senate cast its vote. "I think she will do a good job."

Leahy's classmate, Sen. Megan Schmitz, praises Leahy's hard work in the classroom and expects Leahy's

attitude will carried over to her SABC appointment.

"You can tell why she always has done her homework; she's always volunteering in class," Schmitz said. "She's definitely a hard worker."

The final regular Student Senate meeting of the fall semester will be held at 7 p.m. on Dec. 11 in Milo Bail Student Center's Dodge Room.

CRIME LOG

COMPILED BY
SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Wednesday, Nov. 19

1:31 a.m. While on patrol of Maverick Village, Campus Security witnessed suspicious activity. Further investigation disclosed alcohol and drug violations. Omaha police responded. One student was cited for minor in possession of alcohol, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance. A second student was cited for minor in possession of alcohol. A third student was released without charges but was referred for disciplinary action.

7:50 p.m. Campus Security took a telephone report from a resident of University Village. The student reported a former boyfriend was threatening to break into her apartment.

Sunday, Nov. 23

11:10 p.m. Campus Security responded to a complaint of a suspicious person at University Village. The suspicious person was at the dumpster. The suspect was described as a Caucasian male, 155 pounds, 5-foot-8 with a black mustache wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, a black leather coat and blue jeans.

1:52 a.m. While on patrol, Campus Security witnessed suspicious activity in Lot L. Further investigation disclosed alcohol violations. Three students were referred for disciplinary action.

3:11 a.m. While on patrol, Campus Security

witnessed suspicious activity in Lot K. Further investigation disclosed alcohol violations. One non-resident student was referred for disciplinary action. The student and a visitor were told to leave campus.

3:52 a.m. While on patrol, Campus Security witnessed suspicious activity in Lot K. Further investigation disclosed alcohol violations. Two students were referred for disciplinary action.

Tuesday, Nov. 25

11:24 p.m. Campus Security responded to a complaint at Scott Village regarding a drug violation. Further investigation disclosed a drug violation. One student was referred for disciplinary action.

3 a.m. Campus Security observed suspicious activity in Lot L. Further investigation disclosed alcohol violations. Omaha police responded. One individual was taken into custody by the Omaha Police Department and transported to the Douglas County Correction Center to be positively identified. Two students were referred for disciplinary action. Assistant Manager of Campus Security Paul Kosel said the individual was taken into custody after refusing to provide identification and not cooperating with Campus Security or the Omaha police.

5:12 a.m. While on patrol, Campus Security observed suspicious activity in Lot K. Further investigation disclosed alcohol violations. Two students were referred for disciplinary action.

FOR THE RECORD

In the Nov. 11 hockey story "Mavericks continue strong start against Western Michigan," the score for the Nov. 8 game was incorrectly reported. The Mavs defeated Western Michigan 5-2 on Nov. 8 after a shootout win following a 2-2 tie on Nov. 7. The Gateway apologizes for any confusion caused by the mistake.

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Lecture raises question of whether Indian mascots are honor or stereotypes

COMMENTARY BY
MARK REAGAN
STAFF WRITER

Here is a short history lesson: Europeans came to North America, conquered the natives, took their land, created assimilation programs and – it could be argued – a considerable amount of cultural genocide took place.

How much does it matter anymore? Aren't things better for American Indians? After all, Barack Obama is president-elect. He is black. Life must be better for minorities.

Granted this is an abstract connection and it's meant to be sarcastic. But people forget what American Indians went through and sometimes names and concepts associated with American Indians are taken for granted.

Chiefs. Redskins. Tomahawk chops, arrows and war whoops. These are all concepts related to American Indians. How true are they? Do American Indians think of themselves this way? Do these terms honor them?

On Nov. 19, Ed Zendejas, of UNO's political science department, gave a lecture in the ballroom of the Milo Bail Student Center about honoring Indians and the use of Indian mascots. The lecture was part educational and also part of an ongoing project to address the use of American Indian mascots in 25 high schools in Nebraska.

Zendejas engaged an audience of nearly 60 people as the final event of Native American Heritage Month. There weren't even enough chairs for everyone.

Zendejas is writing a book called "Mascots that Honor Indians: The Audacity of a Dope. For Suggesting Schools Change their Indian Mascots." The book is about these 25 high schools that have mascots depicting tribes and tribal people. He also helped form the non-profit Honor Indians Institute.

"Look, there's a big gap in the knowledge here when it comes to, basically, our understanding of tribes and tribal people," Zendejas said. "I want to bridge that divide."

Zendejas said some educational institutions perpetuate negative stereotypes about American Indians by their mascots.

"One of the ways that ignorance is perpetuated is through the use of Indian mascots," Zendejas said. "The purpose of the book and our institution was to try to highlight some of those things and why maybe that would be inappropriate, specifically in an educational system."

Zendejas's book has two goals, he said. The first purpose is an educational mission. He said he doesn't want to be negative, but does want to combat ignorance about tribes and tribal members.

Zendejas said he wants to focus on good things tribal members do. Ignorance is perpetuated through the use of Indian mascots and how high schools portray tribes and tribal members.

The second purpose of the book and institution is to highlight the inappropriate use of tribes, tribal members and associated imagery, Zendejas explained. He said he isn't against Indian mascots; he just wants mascots that really honor Indians.

Zendejas' efforts involve area American Indian youth – tribal students – who sent out 25 invitations to these schools offering education on honoring American Indians with mascots. It's an all-volunteer effort and he said he hopes for change.

The students hope to open dialogue with other students, Zendejas said. They are waiting on responses from some schools. Many of the responses were defensive and said that the schools were honoring Indians already and they shouldn't have to change anything.

But what does Zendejas mean when he said mascots that honor American Indians?

Tecumseh, Neb., is named after a Shawnee Nation leader who was opposed to treaties and European-American encroachment, Zendejas explained.

The high school's mascot there, however, is the Tecumseh Indians.

"There was no such thing as Tecumseh Indians," Zendejas said.

Zendejas and his students suggested they change the mascot's name to the Panthers to honor Tecumseh because that is a rough translation of his name. Zendejas said Tecumseh would probably not be happy having an American town named after him, considering his vehement opposition to European-style America.

SEE MASCOTS: PAGE 7

Roast shows how university has really moved on

COMMENTARY BY
SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Chancellor John Christensen was named the Omaha Press Club's most recent "Face on the Barroom Floor" at an induction roast and toast last Tuesday. The honor, represented by a caricature of Christensen made by artist Jim Horan, commemorates both Christensen and UNO, which is celebrating its centennial this year.

Walking into the Omaha Press Club, located at the top of the First National Center at 16th and Dodge Streets, was somewhat intimidating for a lowly student – former chancellors, vice chancellors, deans and no fewer than two mayoral candidates roamed the room.

I personally had a conversation with my dean, with whom I'm signed up to take a class next semester, while he drank a glass of red wine. I also shook hands with the man of the hour, who told me he thought I was on his side – that is, that I would report on some of the ribald jokes made at his roast.

Jokes, for instance, like one by Omaha Press Club President-elect Kay Kriss, who noted the names of two of the roasters – John Langan, former dean of the College of Education, and B.J. Reed, executive assistant to the chancellor – along with Christensen himself: Two John's and a B.J. – there's a joke in there somewhere. (Just think

about it. Got it? OK, let's move on.)

Another noteworthy gem was Christensen, who is of Danish decent, being referred to as a "Nordic member" by Ann C. Bird, coordinator of UNMC's Munroe-Meyer Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders and the only roaster, as she pointed out, unable to be fired by Christensen.

The evening wasn't just all phallic jokes, though.

More than once, jokes were made about Christensen's demand that Mike Kemp finish in the top four of the conference, which may be why the Maverick hockey team got off to their strongest start in franchise history this season. One such reference came during wrestling coach Mike Denney's brilliant adaptation of Jimmy Dean's "Big John."

Two other noteworthy jokes came from Reed, one

SEE ROAST: PAGE 7



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Women's hoops falls to St. Cloud 67-54 in UNO Thanksgiving Classic

MICHELLE BISHOP
PHOTO EDITOR

Former North Central Conference foe St. Cloud State handed UNO its second loss of the season with a 67-54 setback in the UNO Thanksgiving Classic Saturday afternoon at the Sapp Fieldhouse.

St. Cloud (5-0) held UNO (1-2) to just 29 percent shooting in the first half as both teams combined to score only 48 points in the first frame. UNO senior Mary Brown nailed a jumper at the buzzer to trim the Huskies' lead 27-21 at halftime. Senior Amanda Brodsack led the Mavs in the first half with 6 points.

UNO started out the second half slow, scoring just 5 points in the first five minutes. St. Cloud built a 12-point lead, but with 6:23 left in the game and the Huskies leading 52-40, UNO scored 7 straight points -- including 5 by junior Alyssa Green, pulling UNO within 52-47 with 3:21 left in the game.

The Huskies responded with a steal

and a quick 2 points. The Mavs were forced to foul as St. Cloud scored its final 13 points on free throws going to the line 14 times in the final 2:25 of the game.

"We've got to do a better job of taking care of the basketball," coach Patty Patton Shearer said. "We can't turn the ball over; we just got to possess the ball better than we did."

St. Cloud finished with a 37-29 rebounding advantage and connected on 20 of 23 free throw attempts while shooting 43.1 percent from the field.

Senior LaToya Wright led UNO with 12 points while Green chipped in 9 points. Brodsack finished with 8 points and six rebounds as the Mavs shot 37.5 percent from the field.

Sophomore Talisha Barlow and senior Anna Cashman each had 17 points to lead the Huskies.

UNO begins MIAA play on Wednesday when they head to Topeka, Kan., to face No. 2 Washburn at 5:30 p.m.

"They're obviously a great team, great program and an Elite Eight team last year," Patton Shearer said. "So we have our work cut out for us."



Top: LaToya Wright, left, puts up a shot over the block of St. Cloud State's Rachel Booth during Saturday's game. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

Left: Alyssa Green (No. 20) fights a pack of players for a rebound during Saturday's game against St. Cloud State. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

Volleyball drops in first round of regionals

MICHELLE BISHOP
PHOTO EDITOR

Truman State swept the Mavs 3-0 (25-19, 25-22, 25-18) in the first round of the South Central Regional in Emporia, Kan., on Nov. 21 to end UNO's season.

Truman senior Eli Medina, who recorded a double-double with 10 kills and 15 digs to lead the Bulldogs, pounded five kills in the first set. Truman jumped out to a 7-6 lead and never looked back, as six different Bulldogs recorded kills to help claim the first set.

In the second set, UNO mounted a mid-set rally to cut the Truman lead to 18-17. But a Medina kill and three UNO errors allowed Truman to push ahead by 4 points at 22-18 and hold on for a 2-0 lead.

"UNO is very ... I don't know the word, they are so unassuming and they are a great serving team," said Truman coach Jason Skoch in a statement. "There really aren't many great serving teams here besides UNO. They don't let you get in a rhythm with their serves; once you think you've got them figured out, they drop one in front of you."

The teams battled to a 5-5 draw in the third set until Truman charged ahead, picking up 9 of the next 10 points to push their lead to 14-6. The Mavs pulled within 3 points at 16-13, but back-to-back UNO hitting errors and a Truman kill put the Bulldogs up 19-13. UNO couldn't draw any closer, ending their first season of MIAA play at 12-8, with 16-16 overall.

"Truman played an extremely aggressive game. I thought they attacked well ... played great defense and mixed up their sets very well. But I would also say that I think my team played very well with them," UNO coach Rose Shires said in a statement. "It's one of those things where we were with them. Truman made 2 or 3 point serves, and it took a lot for us to fight back to get back to within 1 or 2 points of them, and then they made the surge again."

Truman hit .138 offensively and only trailed twice in the match -- at 5-4 in the second and 1-0 in the third.

"We knew that coming in, that we were not counting on Truman to make any mistakes," Shires said. "They are a team that plays clean. They don't do a lot

of flashy stuff, but what they do, they do extremely well and extremely clean, and they're very aggressive with what they do."

UNO hit just .038 and committed 22 attack errors in the match, but ended up out-blocking Truman 7-3.

"I thought that they played very well for themselves. I thought we played great on some things. That was probably the best fight and intensity we've had all year, and I'm glad we won that game," Skoch said. "I'm glad we were able to play a team like UNO first round so that we wouldn't get a false sense of greatness."

Junior Ellen Thommes, junior Kelli Goeser, and redshirt freshman Brittany Hanssen each collected six kills to pace UNO's attack. Thommes, a second-team all-MIAA middle blocker, contributed a match-high five blocks.

Juniors Sara Kampschnieder and Kayla Jansen combined for 29 digs to lead UNO's defense. Freshman Emily Myers added 22 assists and five digs.

"We can only grow from this game," Goeser said in a statement. "We just lose one senior ... but we have five juniors that hopefully can do damage next year."

At the conclusion of the regular season, Kampschnieder and Jansen picked up all-MIAA third team honors, while Myers gained honorable mention recognition.

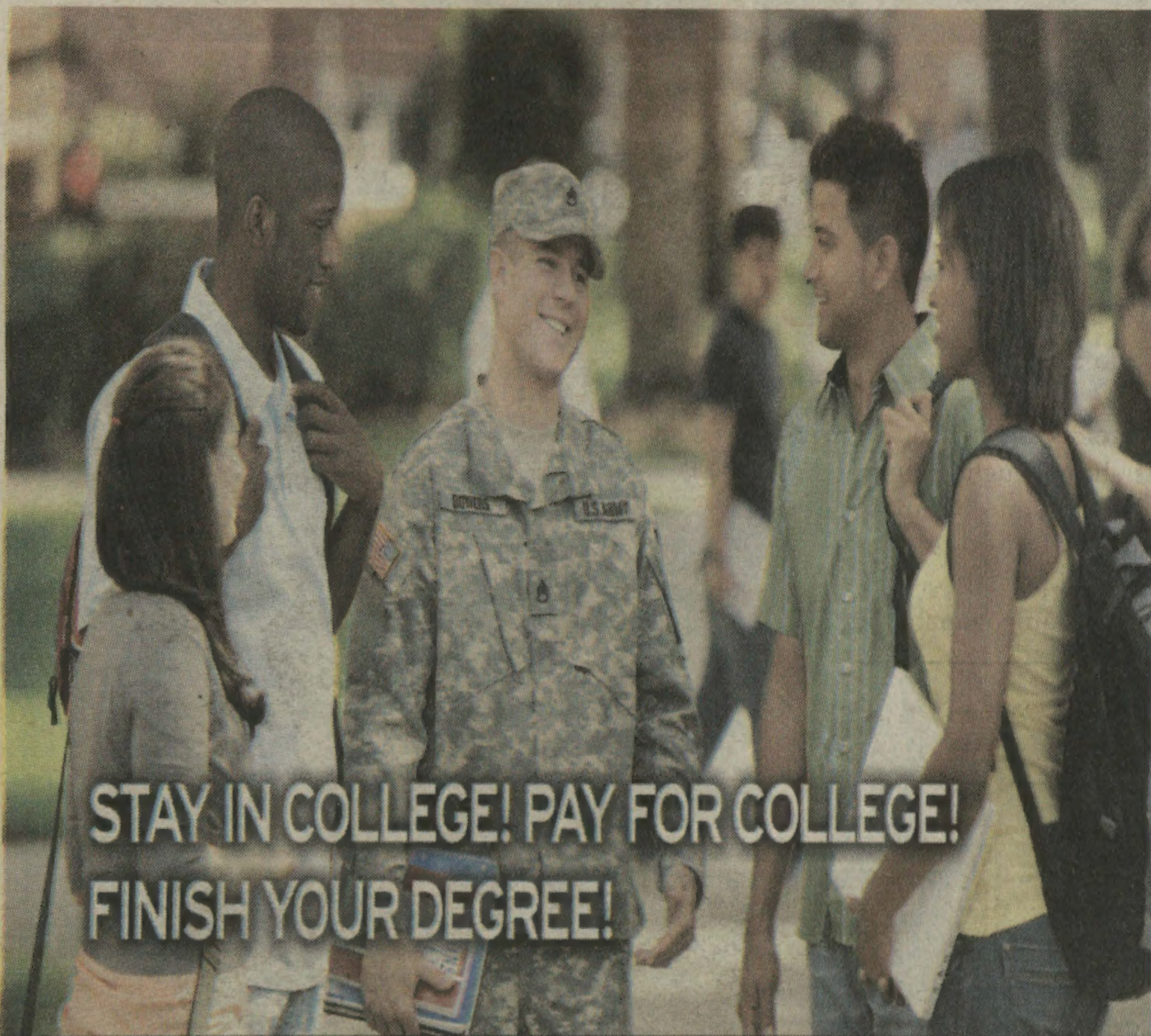
Thommes also picked up an honorable mention on the AVCA Division II South Central Region team.

No. 8 Truman (32-7) went on to defeat top-seeded host and No. 5 Emporia State 3-0 (25-15, 25-14, 25-18) in the championship match to advance to the Elite Eight for the fifth time since 2001.

The South Central Regional drew a total of 6,649 fans for the seven matches and was the best attended of the eight regional tournaments.

The Bulldogs (32-7) will face South Region champion Nova-Southeastern (Fla.) at Concordia University-St. Paul on Thursday.

"I told you guys that I was very happy we played UNO for the first round," Skoch said after Truman's win over Emporia. "I've told them for the last two weeks I'm happy we're playing UNO, because against UNO you have to bust your butts. And we got off on the right track with the win over UNO."



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ARMY STRONG.

Mavs sweep Spartans, but fall on road to Buckeyes

After earning national rankings in the mid-teens, UNO drops road series with two losses in third period

SCOTT STEWART
EDITOR IN CHIEF

After a crushing sweep of Michigan State, the Mavs took to the road over the weekend nationally ranked and, head coach Mike Kemp said, with their sights set on winning a Central Collegiate Hockey Association championship.

Unfortunately for the Mavs, however, UNO's strong momentum in the opening of the season came to a bitter close in Columbus, Ohio, as the Mavericks dropped two games both late in the third period.

It was the first series in CCHA play the Mavs failed to earn a point towards conference standings, with UNO recording splits against Ferris State and Bowling Green, as well as a win and a shootout victory against Western Michigan.

Before the losses this weekend, UNO had been ranked No. 14 in the USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine poll and No. 16 in the USCHO.com/CBS College Sports poll. New poll results were unavailable at press time.

The Mavs now stand at 9-4-1 overall, including 5-4-1-1 in CCHA action with the shootout win over Western Michigan. Next, they face Alaska for a two-game home series at 7:05 p.m. on Friday and Saturday at the Qwest Center.

Mavs open by devastating Spartans 7-1

At home on Nov. 21, the Spartans of Michigan State suffered their worst setback ever against the Mavs, falling 7-1 as UNO netted a season-high four goals in the third period.

The Mavs allowed the Spartans to start the scoring with their first and only goal by Kurt Kivisto, who beat Maverick goaltender Jeremie Dupont at the 10:54 mark in the first period.

Junior forward Dan Swanson got the Mavs going in the final minute of the first, scoring with assistance from Alex Hudson and Eddie DelGrosso at the 19:58 mark. Swanson finished the game as the No. 1 game star with a +4 rating on the night.

"Dan Swanson is not looked upon in this program as a point producer," Kemp said. "His role is to be a real solid fore-checker, a great two-way player and an excellent penalty killer. He's been fulfilling all those roles and, once in a while, a blind squirrel finds an acorn, and he got it tonight."

In the second period, following the momentum from Swanson's buzzer-beating goal, UNO netted two more goals, with sophomore defenseman Nick Von Bokern scoring in the first minute and Swanson netting his second goal in the seventh minute.

Rubbing salt in the Spartans' wounds, the Mavs' Joey Martin, Rich Purslow, John Kemp and Dan Charleston all scored goals in the third period.

Martin's was UNO's only power play goal of the night, on the only penalty called in the third period, a two-minute minor against Michigan State's Corey Tropp for tripping. On the night, both teams only received four penalties for eight minutes of penalty time each – including two offset minutes at the 8:46 mark in the first for roughing after the whistle.

UNO completes sweep of Michigan State 3-1

In front of the largest home hockey crowd so far this season – 7,641 fans – the Mavs skated to a slow start against Michigan State during the second game of their series.

After a scoreless first period, UNO's Jordan Willert got things going with a goal at the 5:39 mark in the second. Willert was answered by the Spartans' Matt Schepke, who scored in the final minute of the period to record a 1-1 tie going into the second intermission.

Tomas Klempa, however, led the Mavs in the third period to their first home sweep of a CCHA opponent since January 2007 over Northern Michigan. Klempa beat Michigan State's Drew Palmisano off a rink-wide feed from Eddie DelGrosso at the 5:44 mark.

Nick Fanto rounded out the scoring with an insurance goal off a lob pass from Eric Olimb, where he cut across the goal and fired off a hard wrist shot past Palmisano at the 16:25 mark.

"Obviously, we're pleased with the sweep," Mike Kemp said. "We knew it wasn't going to be easy tonight."

The loss was the sixth-straight drop for the Spartans, their worst slide since the 1980-81 season when they dropped eight straight games. Michigan State went on to another loss this weekend, but tied Minnesota 4-4 on Saturday to bring their losing streak to a close at seven.

Mavs fall to Ohio State after goal with 1.1 seconds remaining

Going into Columbus, Mike Kemp knew a road series against Ohio State would be a "very, very difficult challenge" against a "very, very good team."

"They've got young talent," Kemp said. "They're a young team, but their sophomores and freshmen are exceptional."

Starting out Friday, the Buckeyes got off to an early start with an even-handed goal by Hunter Bishop at the 11:56 mark in the first. Later on in the period, at 18:03, Sergio Somma scored a second for Ohio State on a power play after DelGrosso was given a two-minute minor for cross-checking.

Down 2-0, Charleston led the return for the Mavs, scoring in the second minute of the second period during a power play following the Buckeye's first penalty of the night, a two-minute minor for interference against Zach Pelletier.

Purslow drove the Mavs to a late-game comeback, with two even-handed goals, one at the 12:11 mark of the second and one at the 13:41 mark in the third, to give the Mavs a 3-2 advantage.

The Buckeyes, however, weren't ready to go down without a fight. Despite being outshot in the third period 17-8, Ohio State fought back to score the tying goal at the 15:46 mark, thanks to an even-handed effort by Ian Boots.

Ohio State's sophomore forward C.J. Severyn then recorded the 'W' for the Buckeyes with a shot beating Dupont's shoulder with a mere 1.1 seconds left on the clock.

That goal was the deciding factor between the two teams, which otherwise were in a statistical dead heat going into what looked like a sure overtime situation.

Both teams recorded four penalties with eight minutes of penalty time. Dupont had 34 saves to Buckeye's goaltender Dustin Carlson's 36. The teams were even on shooting, too, with UNO making 39 attempts to Ohio State's 38.

UNO drops series against Buckeyes

Even after dropping Friday's hard-fought game, expectations for the Mavs were high going into Saturday night. UNO had been 4-0-0 on Saturdays and was second in the CCHA – after Ohio State – in third-period goals.

Neither perceived strength – second-game comebacks or third-period miracles – came through for the Mavericks. For the second time, the Buckeyes defeated UNO with a go-ahead goal being recorded with less than two minutes left.

After a scoreless first period, where it took UNO 9:19 to record a shot against Carlson, the Mavs got off to a strong start in the second period with an even-hand goal at the 2:08 mark by Olimb and a power play goal at the 11:24 mark by Klempa.

The Mavs had managed to make the game 2-0 heading into the second intermission. As with the night before, however, the Buckeyes were down but not out.

Bishop got the scoring started for Ohio State at the 4:02 mark of the third period, but John Albert was the man who would go on to be the No. 1 game star of the night.

Albert tied the game 2-2 after deflecting a shot by Shane Sims past UNO goaltender Jerad Kaufmann at the 13:33 mark. Five minutes later, at 18:33, Albert again beat Kaufmann after breaking down the right side and shooting high over Kaufmann.

The Mavs pushed to tie the game again, recording

20 shots to Ohio State's 10 in the third period and outshooting the Buckeyes 46-23 on the night. Thirteen of the Mavs' attempts came on power plays, where UNO managed to convert only 1 of 7 despite entering the series in the Top 10 in the nation for power plays.

John Markell, the head coach for Ohio State, said in a statement that he felt both teams worked hard on the weekend. He attributed much of his team's success Saturday to penalty killing.

"We basically were beat for two and a half periods tonight and still ended with four points on the weekend," Markell said. "We had a few shots bounce in, and I think their first shot was a lucky bounce too."

Mike Kemp's assessment was straightforward if disappointed. He said in a statement he thought Ohio State were more physical than the Mavs, beating them to loose pucks and taking advantage of any opportunities they earned.

"I think they just wanted it more than we did," Mike Kemp said. "I think even though we had put a lot of shots on goal, we didn't necessary get a lot of quality shots."



Top: Dan Charleston (left to right), Joey Martin and Rich Purslow celebrate Charleston's goal that beat Michigan State goaltender Jeff Lerg to put UNO up a goal in the third period on Nov. 21. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)



Middle: Tomas Klempa (left) challenges a Michigan State player for the puck. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

Bottom: Michigan State's Matt Schepke gets upended while skating between Dan Swanson (left) and Alain Goulet (right) during UNO's 7-1 win on Nov. 21. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)



Review: 'Twilight' has downfalls, but has nice love story

REVIEW BY
AMBER MCCASKILL
CONTRIBUTOR

Viewers shouldn't be surprised after seeing the box office numbers of "Twilight" during its opening weekend. Based off the popular novel, the movie easily earned more than \$70 million in just a few short days, making it a number one box office hit.

But beyond its moneymaking, the movie itself has received mixed reviews. As a reader of the series, I knew the story would be loved by some and hated by others.

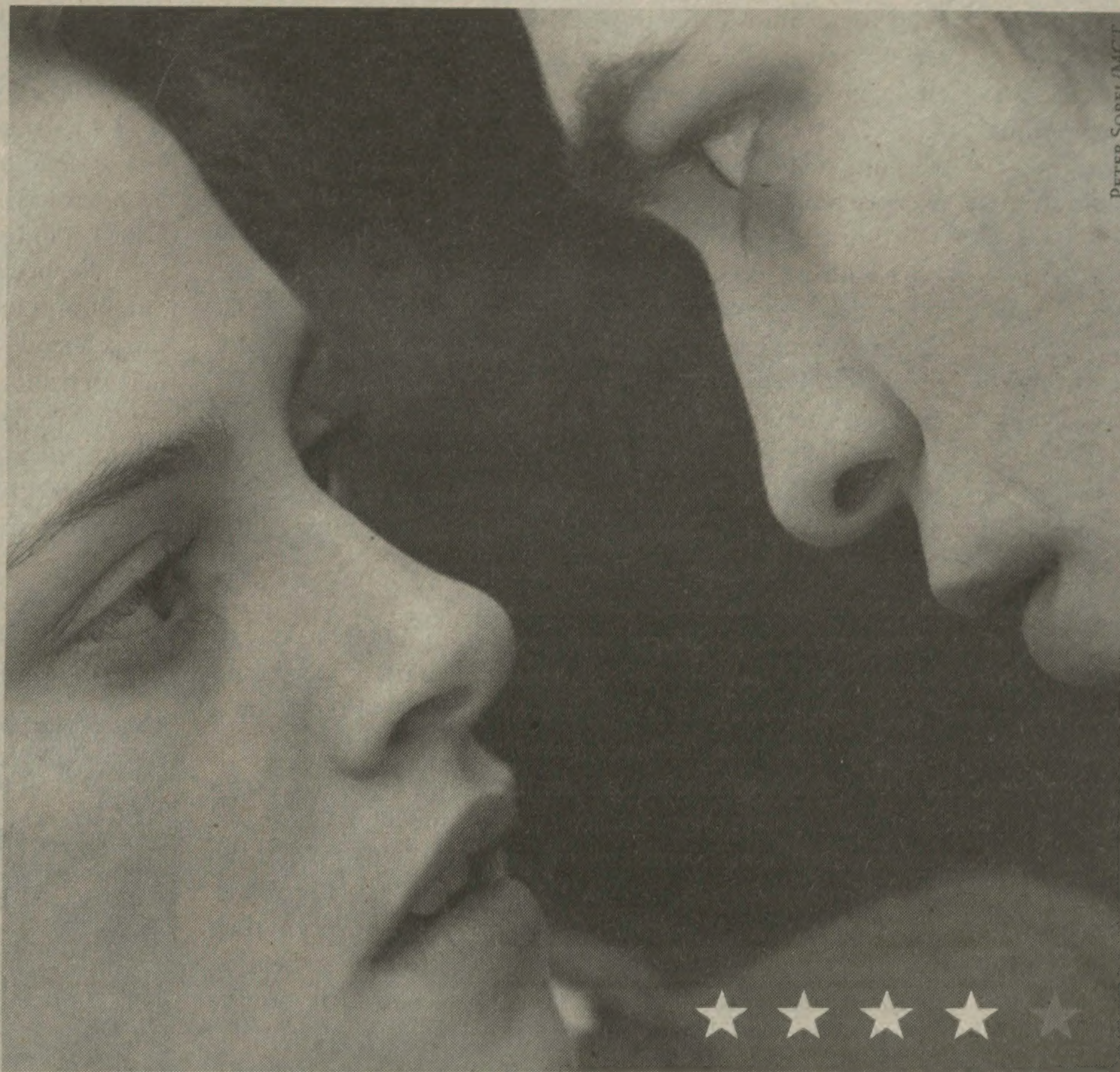
As is often the case, the critics were either enamored or put off by "Twilight" for the very same reason. Love was the name of this game and viewers are head over heels.

The movie follows Bella Swan, a displaced 17-year-old played by Kristen Stewart. The story opens with Swan moving to Forks, Wash., which is one of the rainiest and most desolate places in the United States.

Her move is anything but uneventful as she meets a reserved, yet handsome schoolmate named Edward Cullen, played by Robert Pattinson. Swan's suspicions about him start to grow, especially after he rescues her from an oncoming van by stopping it with his bare hands.

After getting to know him and realizing his strength is only one of his strange abilities, Swan discovers two other important details, which drive the story forward. One is that gorgeous Cullen is a vampire and the other is that she's fallen in love with him.

Pattinson's acting was surprisingly good, particularly since his last performance



PETER SOREL/MCT

as Cedric Diggory from the popular Harry Potter series. He walks the line between an 80-year-old vampire and a 17-year-old boy beautifully.

Pattinson is able to depict Cullen's pain, as the character is torn between being in love with Swan and longing for her blood.

Unfortunately, Stewart's acting was a little flat. But overall, it was believable.

The movie pays tribute to the book in many ways, including a brief cameo appearance by author Stephenie Meyer herself.

A few minor plot adjustments make the movie slightly different from the book, but they exist only as artistic bridges to help the story transition from page to screen. Most of the dialogue remains the same — which

viewers will be surprised and happy to observe.

The special effects were somewhat disappointing, though. Audience members will have a hard time adjusting to them.

Despite its downfalls, the cinematography did have its moments.

Close ups of the main characters' faces when they're talking alone together lets the audience know that the conversations are delicately intimate. In this way, viewers are let in on some of the secrets that they start to share.

The movie's best attribute, however, lies within the chemistry between Pattinson and Stewart.

No one would deny they are madly in love. In the end, it just comes down to whether viewers want to buy into the kind of love they have. Does a love truly exist that's so strong that it never fades or dies? Or is it something fictional, strictly reserved for the silver screen or the novels we adore?

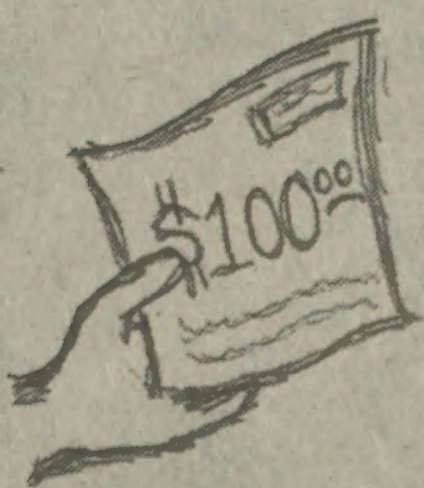
Ultimately, it depends on the viewers' own perceptions or those of the critics. If you're a romantic idealist, you'll love it. If you hold a slightly more cynical view of the world, this movie will be substantially less appealing.

However, as viewers sit in a darkened theater on a cold winter night, begrudgingly used to a world full of problems and unmet expectations, they may think there's something pure and admittedly refreshing about the couple as they dance underneath a twinkle light gazebo. Their story is honest and heartwarming.

So, in this respect, let it go. They're fictional. Let Swan and Cullen have their moment and fall blissfully in love.



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ARTS & LEISURE **DECEMBER** EVENT CALENDAR
2008

COMPILED BY
ANDREA BARBE
CULTURE EDITOR

Dec. 2 – Luminaries light 11 of Omaha’s midtown churches starting at 5 p.m. This tour includes musical performances, live nativity scenes and refreshments. For more information, call 233-7148.

Dec. 3 – Joslyn kicks off its annual “Holiday Under Glass” luncheon concert series. The first concert features the UNO Chamber Choir performing at noon, with tours beginning at 1 p.m. The shows included with the cost of museum admission.

Dec. 5 – The John Beasley Theater and Workshop, located at 3010 Q St., presents “God’s Trombone” starring John Beasley. The show will run through Dec. 28.

Dec. 5 – The Durham Museum hosts “Ethnic Holiday Festival,” an event showcasing how cultures around the world celebrate the holiday season, including food samplings, traditional crafts and ethnic performances from 5 to 9 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors, \$5 for children ages 3 through 12 and free for those under the age of two.

Dec. 6 – Jake Bellows, songwriter, vocalist and guitarist for the local indie band Neva Dinova, joins Landon Hedges, lead singer of Little Brazil, for a free show at 9 p.m.

Dec. 6 – Club Nico hosts “Snowball Gala 2008.” The event will features a winter fashion show presented by local model management group Agency 89. For more information, contact Club Nico at 614-2582.

Dec. 6 – Lauritzen Gardens presents “Holiday Happening,” a series of events with music and family activities, including an appearance by Santa Clause and the popular holiday poinsettia ceremony. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children ages 6 through 12. For more information, call 346-4002.



Dec. 7 – “The Great Russian Nutcracker” takes the stage at the Omaha Music Hall at 3 p.m. Tickets range from \$25 to \$65 and are available through Ticketmaster.

Dec. 9 – Pianist Jim Brickman returns to the metro for his “Holiday Homecoming” concert. The show is in the Slosburg Hall of the Orpheum Theater at 7:30 p.m. For more information or to purchase tickets, please call 345-0606.

Dec. 9 – Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo hosts “Holiday Wildlights,” which includes light displays in the Butterfly and Insect Pavilion from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The evening includes free pictures with Santa, a light dinner and dessert, holiday shopping and the option to see the IMAX holiday film “The Light Before Christmas 2D” at the Lozier IMAX Theater. To purchase tickets or for more information, call 738-2038.



Dec. 10 – “The Blues Brothers” movie plays at the Waiting Room Lounge at 9 p.m. There is no cover charge and it’s open to those ages 21 and older.

Dec. 12 - Qwest Center Omaha features Walt Disney Records’ Cheetah Girls. The multi-platinum trio takes the stage at 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$35 and can be purchased through Ticketmaster.

Dec. 12 - Omaha Performing Arts presents international percussion sensation “Stomp” at the Orpheum Theater at 8 p.m. Performances run through Dec. 14.

Dec. 12 – Tim Burton’s “The

Nightmare Before Christmas” plays at Film Streams. The stop motion flick costs \$6 for students and \$4 for Film Streams Members.

Dec. 18 – Christ Community Church presents the holiday musical “I’ll Be Home for Christmas” at 7 p.m. Admission is free. Performances run through Dec. 21.

Dec. 19 - The Faint performs at Sokol Auditorium at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$18 and can be purchased at all Homer’s Locations or through etix.com.

Dec. 19 - Local rockers Anchondo play the Waiting Room. The show starts at 9 p.m. with a \$5 cover.

Dec. 20 - The Waiting Room hosts Kansas City’s fusion band Pomeroy, with Clever and Old Boy Network. Tickets are \$13 in advance or \$15 day of show. The music starts at 9 p.m.

Dec. 22 – “The Christmas Music of Mannheim Steamroller by Chip Davis” plays the Orpheum. This local holiday band performs multi-media shows on back-to-back nights at 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 26 – “Frosty the Snowman” is on The Rose Theater main stage for this all-ages performance. Admission is \$16 for non-members. The show runs through Dec. 30.

Dec. 31 – First National Bank presents the region’s largest New Year’s Eve fireworks display as part of the Omaha Holiday Lights Festival. The Gene Leahy Mall at 14th and Farnam streets hosts the display while Star 104.5 plays choreographed music to the fireworks. The event is free to the public and will start at 7 p.m.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

FROM **MASCOTS**: PAGE 3

Unlike Tecumseh, he said the first school they approached provides an example of a way to honor American Indians.

“We looked at the schools that had Indian mascots in Nebraska and we did a little research. We actually started off with the Omaha Nation, which is a school located on a reservation,” Zendejas said. “It’s almost entirely tribal students.”

The Omaha Nation’s mascot is the Chiefs, Zendejas said. Instead of perpetuating the stereotype of chiefs, they honored the late Elmer Blackbird, a tribe member who accomplished a lot, by naming their team after him.

“That would be a fitting honor to Elmer,” Zendejas said. “If you want to honor Indians – that’s generally the stated goal of schools that use Indian mascots – there’s other ways to do that without using the stereotypical imagery that we often see.”

Audience members had mixed reactions. Amber McCaskill, a senior, said American Indian mascots are an important issue and that she didn’t know so many high schools in Nebraska had American Indian mascots.

Sophomore Francesca Hannah, treasurer of the Inter-Tribal Student Council, said she didn’t know how she felt about the issue and that it really depends on what your perceptions of American Indian mascots are.



PHOTO BY MICHELLE BISHOP

BLACK FRIDAY SHOPPING IN OMAHA

A line of shoppers bundled in blankets and sleeping bags wait in line around 6 a.m. on Black Friday at Nebraska Furniture Mart.

The line at the electronics entrance snaked from the front of the store around the corner and out onto 72nd Street. As the 7 a.m. opening neared, cars backed up along Rose Blumkin Drive to Dodge Street on the north and along 72nd Street to Pacific Street to the south.

The National Retail Federation had estimated that 128 million people would shop on Black Friday, down from 135 million last year. According to a survey released Sunday by BIGresearch for the federation, however, more than 172 million shoppers were projected to have visited stores or Web sites over the Black Friday weekend. Shoppers spent an average of \$372.57, according to the survey, up 7.2 percent over last year’s \$347.55 figure.

FROM **ROAST**: PAGE 3

questioning why Christensen was always appointed in the interim to positions he’s later appointed to: You don’t rush to judgment with a guy like John. Another: What can you say about a guy who wants to be called “J.C.?”

Ultimately, though, my impression of the roast and toast wasn’t the funny jabs and kind, if veiled, compliments to UNO’s 14th chancellor. It was the fact that here we all were, members of the media and the elite of the university community, gathered in one room, cracking jokes and laughing together.

Such an atmosphere would not have been possible when Christensen first took the reins of UNO amidst the financial tumult surrounding Nancy Belck’s fall from grace in September 2006.

Although the university is far from perfect, and although hard times – including budget cuts – seem to be looming once more, last Tuesday evening it became clear to me that the Omaha community has had its faith restored in UNO.

In large measure, that restoration of faith is thanks to Christensen – he’s managed to do what many worried two years ago might not be possible. The campus is rightfully proud to have him leading us through the good times and, inevitably, the bad times ahead.

CAMPUS UPDATE!

Dodge Street Location Roadwork/Sidewalk Construction Under Way Electrical site work for the new Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER) addition and renovation project will result in several temporary road and sidewalk closings.

"As a reminder, project areas within the construction fence are for contractor use only," said Audrey Buckley, project manager and architect with Facilities Management and Planning. "For your own safety, and that of the construction workers, do not enter the construction areas."

"Pedestrian access to and from Elmwood Park and the University Drive East Parking Structure, are along Caniglia Field," Buckley said. "Please do not access campus from University Drive south and west of the HPER Building."

In addition: Maverick Plaza will not be closed and vehicular access to Lot R will be maintained

Weather permitting, the work should take place according to the following schedule:

- Wednesday, Nov. 19, through Saturday Dec. 6
The sidewalk south of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service (CB) Building will be closed Nov. 19-Dec. 6. Pedestrians are being asked to use the sidewalk north of CB. Foot traffic in the road is prohibited; since, there is considerable construction traffic.

- Thursday, Nov. 20, through Monday, Nov. 24
University Drive South just west of Maverick Plaza (north of the Sculpture Lab) will be closed Nov. 20-24. However, Maverick Plaza will not be closed and vehicular access to Lot R will be maintained. Vehicular access remains from University Drive South to Maverick Plaza for north bound traffic turning east to Sapp Fieldhouse and Lots Q and R. Vehicles heading east on University Drive South will be required to travel through Lot M (south of the Library) to reach Lots Q and R. All shuttles, that serve this area will still offer rides to the residence halls. Detour signs will be posted.

- Tuesday, Nov. 25, through Saturday, Dec. 6
The south entrance into Lot Q will be closed Nov. 26-Dec. 26. Access to Lot Q will be from the west through Lot M.

■■■■■ Contact Audrey Buckley at 554.4104 or Campus Security at 554.2648 for more information ■■■■■

UNO hosts Kaufman-Brand Open

BOB VACANTI
SPORTS EDITOR

UNO once again hosted the 25th annual Kaufman-Brand Open on Nov. 22 at the Sapp Fieldhouse, where more than 35 schools and 500 wrestlers in all divisions participated.

"It's actually the largest one-day event for collegiate wrestling in the nation," head assistant coach Ron Higdon said. "We get all the top Midwest wrestling schools, which is primarily the best college wrestling in the

nation."

The event is named after Ryan Kaufman, a UNO hall of fame wrestling champion who died in a car accident in 1991, and Glen Brand, an Omaha resident who won a gold medal for wrestling in the middleweight class during the 1948 London Olympics.

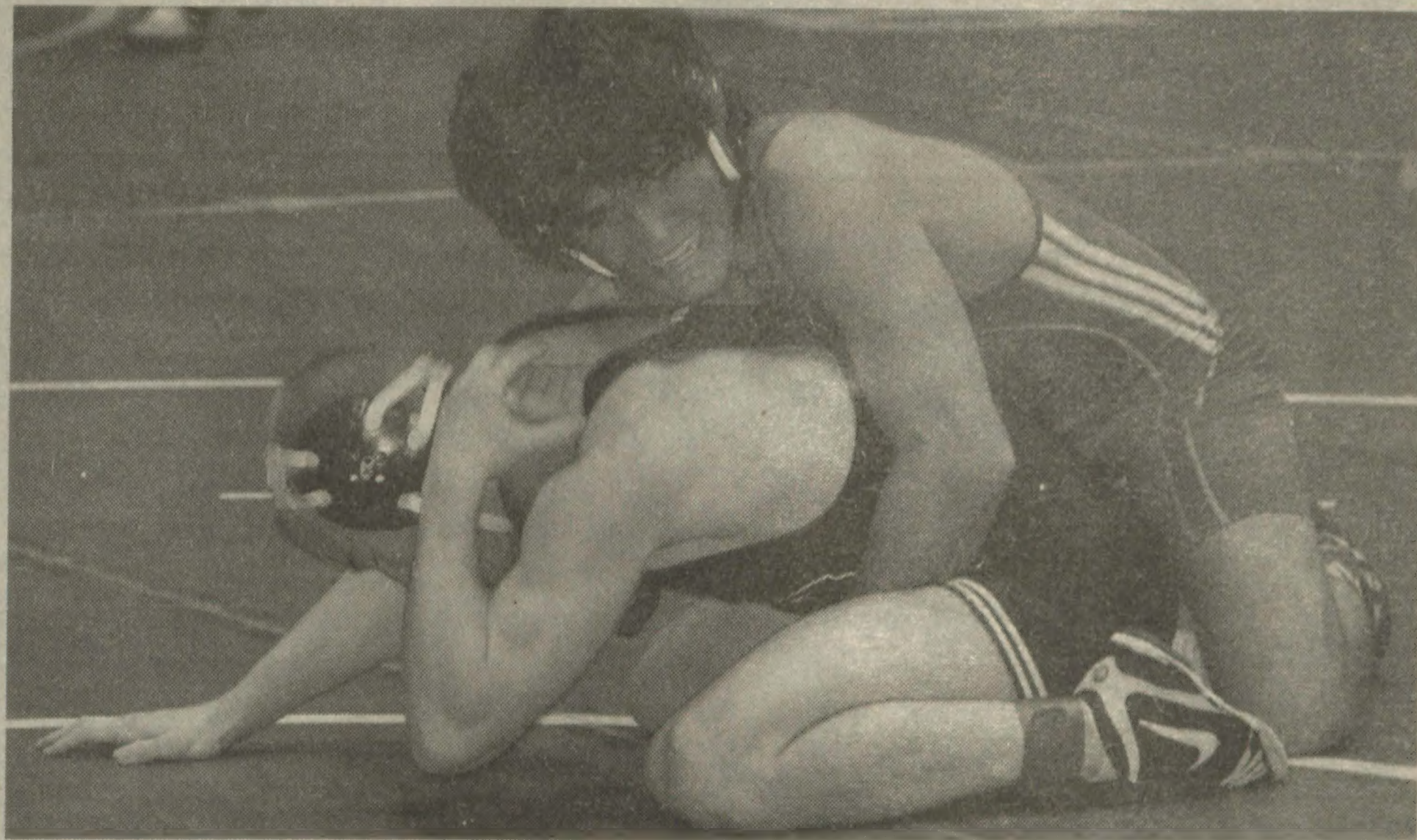
Brand, who has been a long-time sponsor of the event, passed away last Saturday. At the beginning of the tournament, a tribute was given in honor of him and his family, who attended the event.

"It's kind of a significant week," Higdon said. "He's been sponsoring us for over 20 years. In fact, I think this is the 20th anniversary of him sponsoring this tournament."

In the Amateur Division, freshmen Marvio Tischhauser and George Ivanov, both wrestling attached, led the Mavs at second place at 157 and third at 133, respectively. Tischhauser also won an award for most falls in the least amount of time for the Amateur Division. Close behind were Tyler Kottas at 141, Taylor



Matt Rein, right, tries to escape from an opponent during the Kaufman-Brand Open at the Sapp Fieldhouse on Nov. 22. (JODI PENN/THE GATEWAY)



Esai Dominguez (top) finished fourth at 149 in the Elite Division during the Kaufman-Brand Open at the Sapp Fieldhouse on Nov. 22. (JODI PENN/THE GATEWAY)

Escamilla at 285 and Ryan Pankoke at 165, all placing fourth.

As for the Elite Division, Esai Dominguez at 149, Cody Garcia at 133 and Jacob Marrs at 197 all placed fourth, with sophomore Mario Morgan taking sixth place at 141.

"He's doing real well right now," said Higdon in reference to Dominguez. "We

have a red shirt freshman right now from Omaha Creighton Prep that moved up a division. I mean, he's only a red shirt freshman, so most guys that age don't wrestle in the Elite Division."

The Mavs' next event takes place on Dec. 7 in Cedar Falls, Iowa, at the Northern Iowa Open at 9 a.m.

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